

Filed: April 20, 2001

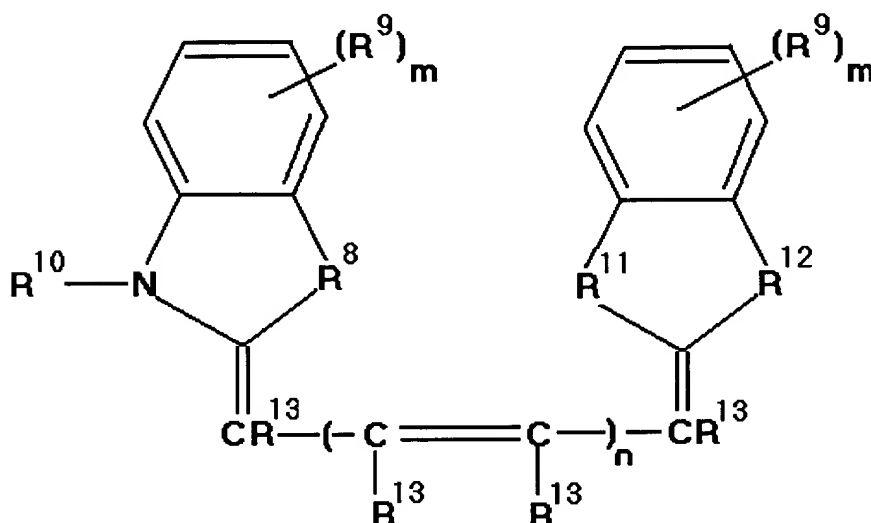
Title: LABELED PEPTIDES, PROTEINS AND ANTIBODIES AND PROCESSES AND INTERMEDIATES USEFUL FOR THEIR PREPARATION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-83. (Cancelled)

84. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent compound of the formula:



wherein:

each m is 1;

n is an integer ranging from 0 to 2;

 R^8 , R^{11} and R^{12} are separately CO, SO₂, C=C(CN)₂, S, O or C(CH₃)₂;each R^{13} is hydrogen, or an alkyl, or branched alkyl substituted with charged groups to enhance water solubility and enhance photostability;each R^9 and R^{10} is separately hydrogen, a charged group, a reactive group or an alkyl chain that can be substituted with charged groups to enhance water solubility or with reactive groups for conjugation to other molecules;wherein at least one R^9 is a charged group or a reactive group, or at least one R^9 alkyl chain is substituted with a charged group; and

wherein each of said charged groups or reactive groups is separately SO_3^- , amide, ether, $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2$ -halide, amine, maleimide, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{S}$, acyl halide, succinimidyl ester, sulfosuccinimidyl ester, sulfonyl halide, sulfonyl azide, alcohol, thiol, semicarbazide, hydrazine, hydroxylamine, or $\text{COO}-\text{Rx}$, wherein Rx is phenol or naphthol.

85. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 wherein each R^9 and R^{10} is separately hydrogen, $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2$ -halide, sulfonate, amide or ether or an alkyl chain substituted with $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2$ -halide, sulfonate, amide or ether.

86. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 wherein each R^9 and R^{10} is separately hydrogen, SO_3^- , amide, ether, $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2$ -halide, amine, maleimide, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{S}$, acyl halide, succinimidyl ester, sulfosuccinimidyl ester, sulfonyl halide, sulfonyl azide, alcohol, thiol, semicarbazide, hydrazine or hydroxylamine or an alkyl chain that can be substituted with

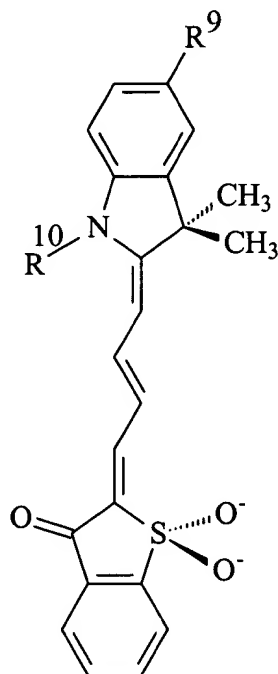
SO_3^- , amide, ether, $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2$ -halide, amine, maleimide, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$, $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{S}$, acyl halide, succinimidyl ester, sulfosuccinimidyl ester, sulfonyl halide, sulfonyl azide, alcohol, thiol, semicarbazide, hydrazine or hydroxylamine.

87. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 wherein R^9 or R^{10} is $\text{COO}-\text{Rx}$, wherein Rx is phenol or naphthol or an alkyl chain that can be substituted with SO_3^- , amide, ether, carboxylic acid, alkali or alkaline earth metal salt of carboxylic acid, acyl chloride, succinimidyl, or sulfosuccinimidyl ester.

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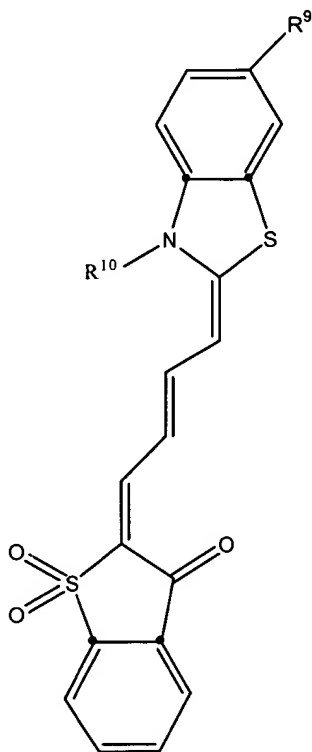
88. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 having the formula:



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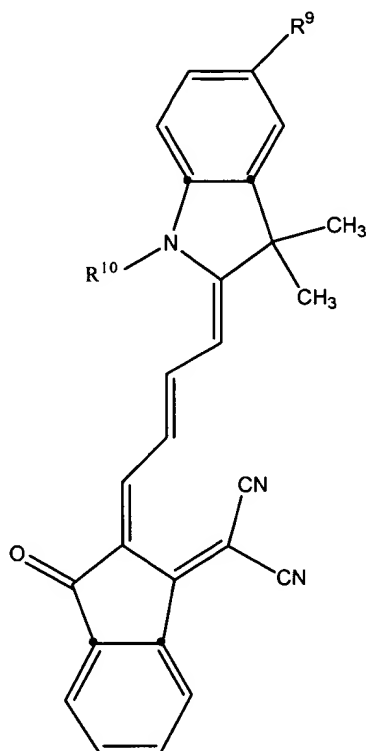
89. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 having the formula:



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90. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 84 having the formula:



91-92. (Cancelled)